

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

The Ministry of Police, in which it is said M. de Maupas has been too zealous, finding plots constantly where no plots existed, has been suppressed; and M. de Maupas is spoken of for a diplomatic appointment. M. de Morny and M. Fould are for preserving the peace of Europe at any risk; while M. de Persigny and M. Drouyn de Lhuys are for enforcing respect to treaties even at the hazard of war.

It was generally believed in Paris that the Minister of Foreign Affairs had received news of the definitive rejection of the Russian ultimatum by the Porte; but that, nevertheless, the Eastern question would be solved peacefully.

A telegraphic message has been received at Calais, from Paris, to secure every sailor under forty years of age, and who had not already served four years in the French navy. The men were ordered to be sent to Brest immediately. Several fishing boats, having been deprived of their crews, have been dragged on shore.

At a self-solicited interview with the editors and proprietors of the Paris journals, the Minister of the Interior has intimated that it is not the intention of the Government to increase the restrictions on the press, but, on the contrary, that it is desirous of extending the freedom of an organ so powerful for good when wielded with moderation.

## PRUSSIA.

THE QUESTION OF MIXED MARRIAGES.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Chronicle* writes on June 23rd:—

"It will be remembered that a recent Papal Bull, addressed to the Roman Catholic Episcopacy of Prussia, and ordered to be enforced by them in their various dioceses, directed that assent should be refused to all mixed marriages of non-Catholics with Catholics, unless oaths should be taken by the contracting parties, before a Catholic Priest, that all issue of the marriage should be brought up in the Roman Catholic Faith. The Minister of War, General von Bonin, has, in the King's name, issued a general order to the army and navy, including, of course, all individuals connected therewith, civil or military, in which it is stated that in case any officer should obey this act of Roman encroachment, and take any such oath or pledge before a Catholic Priest, he shall be forthwith dismissed the service as guilty of conduct unworthy a man and an officer. The *Zeit*, in alluding to this subject, says that the giving of any such pledge, no matter by whom, is illegal, being an infraction of the law of the land relating to mixed marriages."

## RUSSIA.

All news from Russia connected with military matters is so uniformly warlike that it looks very much like a dead set at intimidating Europe. Instance the following, under date of the 17th:—"To judge from the reports which every day gain more substance, and from the unusual activity of the military authorities, it must be seriously meant to occupy the Danubian Principalities; or, indeed, to undertake something more serious still, since the fleet in the Black Sea is fully equipped for war. The crews of these vessels are described as most martially disposed, and to be still further inspired by the bold bearing of Prince Menschikoff, "thirsting for achievements." It is said of him, that when he left Constantinople the last time, he predicted his return thither, but, as he pointedly put it, his return "in full uniform." This expression, alluding to his late appearance there in plain clothes, means also in Russian something equivalent to "armed cap-a-pie." There are not wanting persons who affirm positively that the Prince is already in possession of instructions how to act, as soon as the answer to the ultimatum should arrive at Odessa from Constantinople.

## ROME.

The eighth anniversary of the elevation of the present Pope to the Papal throne was celebrated at Rome on the 17th. The day was ushered in with salvos of artillery from the Castle of St. Angelo, and a solemn service was performed in the Sixtine Chapel, in the presence of his Holiness, the Cardinals, and other dignitaries. Cardinal Ferretti performed mass. After the service his Holiness received the congratulations usual on the occasion.

The Rev. Jesuit Fathers who were to form the General Congregation of the Order had all arrived in Rome. The first reunion was appointed for the 21st of June, the Feast of St. Aloysius Gonzaga. The General Congregation was to commence its labors by the election of a Superior-General, in order to carry them on under his presidency and direction. It is believed the Congregation will last for six months. It had been ordered by the deceased General a considerable time before his illness, and consequently without any idea of his death, and of the obligation in which this present assembly would be placed of providing his successor. Providence had permitted this anticipated convocation, in order to shorten the vacancy of the Generalate. The constitutions in fact ordain that the General Congregation must be convoked six months before the day fixed for its reunion. Thus, if the convocation had only taken place at the death of the General, it could not have been held till towards the end of October, and there would of necessity have been a vacancy of at least six months. Thanks to the truly providential foresight of the Rev. Father Roothaan, this vacancy will only last six weeks, for the last Superior-General died on the 8th May, and in all probability the election of his successor will have taken place on the 22nd or 23rd June.

The General Congregation which has just opened is composed of fifty members. The society is divided,

if we are not mistaken, into fifteen provinces, and two demi-provinces. Each province sends three members, and each demi-province one member, which gives forty-seven members. To these must be added the Vicar-General and the four assistants, which raises the whole number to fifty-two.

France reckons in this assembly ten members, nine for the three provinces of Paris, Lyons, and Toulouse, and the assistant. It is the fifth of the whole number.

We have said that each province sends to the General Congregation three of its members. The Father Provincial constitutes, of right, a part of the deputations; the two others are chosen by the Provincial Congregation, which is composed of fifty members. In the first place, of all the Superiors of the houses of the provinces, and to complete the number of fifty, if there is occasion, of the oldest of the Fathers Professed, according to the seniority of their profession.

It would be difficult to find a more reverend assembly than that which was to be assembled on the 21st of June, in the Conventual Hall of the Gesù. Its members have come from all the corners of the world. The majority of them have grown old in the labors of the Apostolate, of instruction, and of science. All of them have given pledges of their devotion to the Church and to society. What an admirable spectacle is presented to the world by this Society of Jesus, always pure, always filled with the spirit of its holy founder, having never any occasion for reformation, always persecuted by impiety, always exalted by religion, having no enemies but the enemies of the Church, and able to boast of the esteem and affection of all those who value and who love the truth!

## PERSIA.

Extract of a letter from Erzeroum, dated June 3rd:—"Yesterday's gloom brought us a batch of news from Persia of a singular kind. It is no less than the appearance of a number of visitations there at the same time, for there have been inundations and cholera at Teheran, locusts at Isfahan, and a terrible earthquake at Shiraz and Cashan. At the former place 12,000 to 15,000 persons are said to have been killed, as the disaster occurred during the night, and the stench arising from the dead bodies was such as to produce an epidemic very much resembling the plague. From Teheran we hear that the cholera has diminished. The British mission had, however, moved higher up the hills, as a matter of precaution."

## INDIA.

There was no definite news from Rangoon, but it was expected that either the treaty with the King of Ava would be signed at once, or that our troops would move on to Ava. The Governor-General is anxious to bring the war to a close.

## AUSTRALIA.

In Australia things were proceeding prosperously. From the 1st of January to the 6th of April 500,000 ounces of gold had been shipped; price of gold, £3 17s. 6d. per ounce.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

THE CARLTON CLUB.—ANOTHER ROW.—We learn that there was what an Irishman would call a regular row at the Carlton Club on Thursday. The scene was a mingled one, in which the serious and ludicrous elements were blended in pretty equal proportions.—We may be able, in a day or two, to enter into particulars. In the meantime it may be enough to mention the fact that the scene had its origin in the state of perfect confusion into which the Conservative party have been thrown since the downfall of the Derby administration.—*Morning Advertiser*.

In the Lords, on Friday, there was another long and unprofitable discussion upon a question, put by Lord Cardigan, as to the intention of the government to prosecute the Rev. Messrs. Burke and Clune for the part they took in the Sixmilebridge affair, and upon a motion of the noble earl for the production of the correspondence between Lord Aberdeen and Mr. Monseil, which has already been published by all the press. The gallant peer's speech was extremely violent in its tone respecting the Catholic Clergy, which induced the Prime Minister, in reply, to express a hope that Lord Cardigan's remarks would not create a dangerous excitement and disorder in Clare at the forthcoming election for that county. As to the noble lord's question, the case remained precisely where it was last March, when the subject was fully discussed in both Houses. Government had then stated their reasons for not prosecuting the clergymen in question, and nothing that since transpired had altered their decision. Such a prosecution the Executive deemed to be eminently unwise and impolitic, after the mode in which the late Irish Attorney-General (Mr. Napier) had conducted the case when he was in office. With regard to the correspondence alluded to, he (Lord Aberdeen) objected to its production, simply because it was not official. It was already before the country, and the opponents of the government were welcome to make what use they pleased of it. For the noble leader of the Lower House, he (Lord Aberdeen) entertained the highest admiration and the greatest personal friendship; but that was no reason why he should adopt his noble friend's opinions on all subjects, or his reasons for arriving at particular conclusions.

The nunneries discussion, as my readers know, is fixed for the 20th July. It was thought and said that the question would be hardly likely to come on again for discussion this session—but, to all appearance, a greater mistake was never made. On the 20th July Mr. Phinn's motion stands third on the list. There are two orders of the day before him, but of these I understand that one will be withdrawn, and the other will not occupy more than half an hour. My present impression is, that the whole of that Wednesday will be devoted to the discussion. There are so many to speak, that I take it for granted the debate will not be concluded on Wednesday, but will have to be renewed on some future day—if indeed another day can be found.—*London Correspondent of Tablet*.

Productive gold diggings are said to have been found on some crown lands in Scotland. The locality, however, is kept a secret.

On the evening of the 22nd June a wanton and most disgraceful outrage was committed on the Catholic Chapel at Pembroke Dock, South Wales, during the time of a vessel being launched from her Majesty's Dockyard. Between the hours of four and five o'clock, p.m., a number of persons wantonly and maliciously destroyed nearly the entire of the windows on one side (130 panes) of the chapel. The Rev. Oliver Murphy, the pastor, has offered a reward of £5 to any persons who may give such information as may lead to the conviction of any of the perpetrators; yet, strange to say, although the occurrence took place early in the evening, and although a number of people are continually walking through the town, not a clue has yet been discovered whereby the offenders may be traced and rendered amenable to the laws of the country.

DISTURBANCES BETWEEN WELSH AND IRISH WORKMEN.—Several disturbances have taken place, and the greatest antipathy has been shown, between the Welsh and Irish laborers and workmen employed on the iron works at Nantyglo, Benfort, and Brynmawr. This ill will originated in a severe case of stabbing, which took place in a public-house at Ebbwvale, where, in a drunken brawl, a Welshman was stabbed in the abdomen. As soon as this outrage was known among the hills the greatest indignation was manifested on the part of the Welsh against the Irish, and the former employed at the forges and elsewhere showed great hostility. In many places the Irish were pelted with stones, and at Brynmawr a mob of 3,000 Welshmen paraded the streets, threatening death if the Irish did not leave. Stones were thrown, but the Irish residents immediately left, selling their tools for what they would bring. Hundreds of men were thus thrown out of work. Constables were sworn in to preserve the peace.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND EDUCATION SOCIETY v. THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.—On Thursday week there was a grand field day of the Liverpool Evangelicals at the Amphitheatre—in favor of the first named society, whose main object is to abolish the compulsory use of the Church of England Catechism in its schools; and against the latter, which has the support of the Bishops, and of their supreme head, in spirituals as well as temporal, the Queen. The principal speakers were the Rev. W. Pollock, who ridiculed the notion of making "little Quakers, Baptists, Independents and Wesleyans, often not baptized, tell positive untruths about godfathers, godmothers, and bishops; and Dr. McNeill, who took great credit to himself for having refused to read in his church the Queen's letter in behalf of the National Society,—not intending the refusal, he said, as an indignity to the Queen, but as a rebuke to the unfaithfulness of the minister who recommended such a step to the Sovereign. This movement is another illustration of the divisions and the Church of England even to its core; and which will, sooner or later, verify the Divine prediction, "The house divided against itself cannot stand."—*Catholic Standard*.

ANGLICAN DEVELOPMENTS.—Considerable excitement has been caused in Evangelical circles, by the open renunciation of their distinguishing principles by one of their most popular ministers, the Rev. Mr. Forster, the pastor of a numerous congregation assembling in a handsome modern built edifice in Kentish-town, London. The rev. gentleman has announced his far-well sermon to be preached to his present congregation on Sunday next. A large portion of his hearers, it is said, sympathise with their minister's views, and will accompany him to another place of worship in the neighborhood. Rumor makes free with the names of other men of note in the Evangelical world as being likely to follow this gentleman's example.—*Morning Paper*. We have been informed that Mr. Forster intends establishing a "Free Christian Church," the bases of which will be:—The Holy Scriptures, not human creeds, the only standard of Christian belief; the duty of all men to inquire for themselves; their individual irresponsibility to each other for the conclusions which they may reach; and diversity of opinions no bar to religious fellowship.—In this project he has received ample promise of support.—*Examiner*. We have not yet learned what phase of Protestantism this new reformer means to go through; possibly he is not as yet satisfied in his own mind as to the doctrine he shall preach. For the present, he is simply a Protestant unattached. He only protests now against the Adorable Trinity; but whether his private judgment will induce him to join the Unitarians, or Archbishop Whately and the Socinians, or Archbishop Sumner and the Anti-Ordination sect, or Dr. Hampden, or Mr. "Baptist" Noel, or Mr. Anti-Baptist Gorham, who can foretell? Whatever his future course, what Protestant can legitimately condemn him? If he be wrong, where is the authority to set him right or call him to account? The Anglican "Church" is a notorious sham, as far as authority is concerned. Its Bishops have no authority except what the law of Parliament gives them, and, to cure a peccant Parson's soul, they must go to Sir John Dodson, at Doctors' Commons, at a cost which, as in Archdeacon Denison's case of imputed heresy, the "Lords Spiritual" are not disposed to incur.—*Catholic Standard*.

It is remarkable, as evidencing the intense desire for peace that pervades the mercantile mind of Europe, that almost no one is willing to look the present danger in the face; and that every Telegraphic announcement of fresh difficulties or ruptures has tagged on to it, how or by whom no body knows, the comforting assurance that, "notwithstanding, peace will be preserved," or, "a pacific solution is looked for." We are not quite so sanguine, and believe that, however hostilities may be temporarily stayed off by fatal concessions, the ambition of Russia will ere long force Europe into a war. There is one fact, especially, which we view in a totally different light from those who still uphold the pacific intentions of the Russian Emperor. From Berlin and Dresden it is reported that an unusual number of Russian families are on their way to the German watering-places, who all assert that there is not the least probability of war taking place. At Paris a similar phenomenon is observed; and the Russian Ambassador, M. Kisseleff, has ostentatiously taken a house at Vichy for the season, and a new lease of his town-house for two years (which is twice the usual length of lease); in neither case making any difficulty as to engaging to pay the full rent, in case he leaves before the expiry of the lease. So far from viewing these unusual proceedings as any guarantee for peace, they seem to us rather symptomatic of a matured plan of hostile policy which is resolved to mask its designs up to the last moment.—We know that the national party in Russia is vehemently in favor of war, and the whole complexion of

the times is certainly not one peculiarly pacific; and if, in the face of these facts, we find an unusual number of Russian families of distinction thus flocking to Paris and the Rhine, it is much more probable that they have been sent a travelling by the Czar himself, than that they are acting in obedience to any unwarranted passion on their own parts for summer-touring.—This drama of finesse, however, is rapidly approaching a denouement; for, though our own Cabinet seems quite content to continue guessing at the Czar's riddles, the French Emperor, it is said, has at length resolved to pluck the mask from off the Northern intriguer, and boldly to accept either peace or war, as Russia pleases.—*Edinburgh Advertiser*.

The Report of Criminal Offenders in Scotland for the year 1852 has, in conformity with the Act of Parliament, been printed. The tables of which the report is composed are of a very voluminous description. They give details of the state of crime in each of the thirty-two Counties into which Scotland is divided,—with the character of the offences committed, the age and sex of the criminals, state of their education &c. In the cases of 35 males and 10 females the amount of instruction could not be ascertained. In respect to the age of offenders, we find from the Report, that the ages between 21 and 30 are productive of the greatest number of criminals; the next period is between 18 and 25; the third between 30 and 40; and that which appears to contribute least to the roll of offenders is where the ages is 12 and under. Of the total number of 4027 offenders, 4 were sentenced to death, 3 to transportation for life, 25 to fourteen years transportation, 235 to seven years transportation, and 88 to transportation for other periods; 17 were whipped, 164 fined, 1 discharged on surety, and in the case of 14, where a conviction had been obtained, no sentence was pronounced; 29 were outlawed, 5 were found to be insane; 42 were found not guilty. In the case of 157, a verdict of not proven was returned; and 730 were discharged before trial. The execution of the capital sentence was committed in three cases, and that of transportation for life in one.

THE AGAPEMONE.—At the Bridgewater County Court, on Saturday, an action was brought by Mr. Walters against Mr. Prince, "My Lord" of the Agapemone, to recover certain articles of domestic use, carried to the Agapemone by the plaintiff, on going there to reside, and not delivered to him again on his leaving, which, in the course of the trial, it appeared he did at twelve o'clock at night on the 30th of April last. Mr. Walters, on examination, said,—I became an inhabitant of the Agapemone in 1845, and remained there until the last day of April of the present year. I saw Mr. Prince most days; he was the head of the establishment, but gave his orders through the medium of others; I took meals sometimes with him; Mr. Prince never gave orders except in trifling matters; Mr. Thomas was the will of "my Lord," and said, in giving orders, "You shall do so and so." Mr. Prince was treated in the establishment as superior to man—as the Lord Jesus Christ, holding himself forth as such; and was called my Lord who died on the cross—the only Lord Jesus Christ, and was treated as such. Mrs. Starkey was also next Mr. Prince in honor and authority; she was called Helen, afterwards "beloved;" she sometimes gave directions for Mr. Prince, but did nothing except by his will. When I got into the Agapemone, Prince conducted himself as head of the establishment, and Mr. Thomas as agent. Mr. Prince declared that Mr. Thomas was his will, and he had no other will; I received every word of Thomas's as Prince's. When I left, they said—"I left as a thief in the night," in one of the letters. I left at twelve o'clock at night; I was there five years. At this stage of the proceedings, an agreement was come to by the parties, after several attempts, to settle the matter as follows, viz:—"Plaintiff agreed to take judgment for the goods contained in his list, without costs," and so the case terminated. The case was conducted on both sides with the greatest respect towards each other; and plaintiff still seemed to regard Mr. Prince with extreme reverence.—*Sherborne Journal*.

Mr. Herbert, of Onslow-house, Brompton, has discovered a way of making flowers instantaneously blossom. It is effected by the application of heat to the roots, after a careful preparation of the soil. Last Saturday he made some geraniums blossom instantaneously, the buds of which were previously only just visible. A large company assembled to witness the novel feat, and the blossoms were cut and handed round. They were perfect in shape and scent.

THE MOST PROTESTANT NATION.—ILLITERACY OF ENGLAND.—The following statement of the extraordinary degree of ignorance prevailing in England is made in "Dickens's Household Words." It is observed that it might well challenge belief, were it not founded on official and authentic sources:

"It has been calculated that there are in England and Wales 6,000,000 persons who can neither read nor write—that is to say, about one-third of the population, including of course infants; but of all the children from five to fourteen, more than one-half attend no place of public instruction. These statements—compiled by Mr. Kay from official and other authentic sources for his work on the social condition and education of the poor in England, would be hard to believe if we had not to encounter in our everyday life, the degrees of illiteracy which would be startling if we were not thoroughly used to it.—Wherever we turn ignorance not always allied to poverty, stares us in the face. If we look in the Gazette at the list of partnerships dissolved, not a month passes but some unhappy man, rolling perhaps in wealth, but wallowing perhaps in ignorance, is put to the *experimentum crucis* of 'his mark.' The number of petty Jurors, in rural districts especially, who can only sign with a cross is enormous. It is not unusual to see parish documents of great local importance defaced with the same humiliating symbol, by persons whose office not only shows them to be 'men of mark,' but men of substance. We have printed already specimens of the partial ignorance which passes under the pen of the post office authorities, and we may venture to assert that such specimens of penmanship and orthography are not to be matched in any other country in Europe. A housewife in humble life need only to turn to the file of her husband's bills to discover hieroglyphics which render them so many arithmetical puzzles. In short the practical evidence of the low ebb to which the plainest rudiments of education in this country have fallen are too common to bear repetition. We cannot pass through the streets, we cannot enter a place of public assembly, or ramble in the fields, without the gloomy shadow of ignorance sweeping over us. The rural population is indeed in a worse plight than the other class."